

Montessori Children's School
Weekly Newsletter
September 7, 2011



Dear Montessori Families,

September is here and time moves swiftly at MCS. I would like to thank those families that attended our Fundraising meeting this morning. Our fundraising committee is responsible for raising at least \$24,000.00 to go towards the school budget. They have tons of great ideas to implement this year beginning with our first fundraiser. We are having a Happy Hour at the Bottlecap on Simonton Street. Every Friday the Bottlecap donates all tips to a not-for-profit organization. On September 23rd from 5 –7, our school will be the beneficiary. There will be lots of fun activities and we do have limited childcare. This is a great time to get a jump start on your 5 required fundraising hours. Please see the sign up sheet outside the office, one is for childcare if needed and the other is to bring food to the fundraiser and to help at the event. It's lots of fun so be sure to spread the word to your coworkers and friends to stop by that evening to support our school. A big thanks to Melissa and Nikki for chairing this important committee. Our next fundraising meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 12th in the aftercare room at 8:30am. We will be gearing up for Fantasy Fest and Children's Day.

Please see the updated calendar attached to your email. We made some minor changes on the early dismissals in December and May and we added the dates for our monthly Board meetings which are open to all families. Our September board meeting is tomorrow morning. I also worked on making it a little more user-friendly (thanks for the input, Jane). With all the important activities going on it's important to read your newsletters, check your child's take-home folders and check the information boards outside the office. All sign up sheets are now posted under the shelf outside the side door of the office. On the shelf we have workpay slips for you to fill out anytime you complete any workpay. Please put all completed workpay slips in Robbi's inbox on her desk. If you have a check to drop off, please drop it in new lockbox inside the office. Please wait and get a receipt for all cash payments.

For all of our new families, we know this is an adjustment period for your children and some children adjust more easily than others. Please be patient with your little ones. If they are having difficulty separating, please be sure to say goodbye and when you do, leave. If you prolong the goodbyes, it will make it more stressful for your child. If your child is inconsolable, we will contact you. Most children are fine within 5 minutes after you leave, others get sad periodically and we help them through the process. Have faith that we have your child's best interest at heart and treat each child with respect and love.

If your child is a full day student and stays for lunch, you may have noticed they are not eating as much as they do at home. This is normal at the beginning of school. Please do not feel the need to overload the lunchbox with food. Lunchtime is an exciting experience and the children are busy taking all the new stimulation and procedures we use into their brain. Typically after a month or so, you will see their lunch eating habits become more normalized, just as your child will in his environment. During pickup time, if you choose to come onto the campus to pick-up your child please sign your child out first and wait on the United Street side of the front yard. All children are to be seated on the bench before going to you, so we may keep track of all our little ones. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Please check the important information on the next page of your weekly news as well as a letter from our Board President. Our Corporation meeting is Thursday next week and all families are required to attend. Don't miss this important event.

In Dedication,

Dates to Remember

- September 8 - board meeting @ 8:30am
- September 15 - Mandatory corporation meeting @ 5:30pm
- September 17 - Workpay Party beginning at 9am. We have lots of painting and trimming to do, please come and help
- September 23 - early dismissal @ 12:45
- September 23 - Bottlecap Happy Hour school fundraiser
- October 7 - Welcome back to school potluck picnic, sign up bring a dish!
- October 12 - fundraising meeting @ 8:30am
- October 18 - Board/Staff meeting at 3:00pm
- October 20 - Coffee with Kim @ 8:30am more information to come!
- October 28 - Early dismissal
- October 31 - Professional Day, no school, childcare available

Aftercare

If your child is participating in the aftercare program please make note of these important phone numbers. The school number is 305-294-5302 ext. 106. Ms. Ann's cell number is 305- 393-9274

"Intelligence is what distinguishes man from the animals and the building up of his intelligence is the first thing to occur. Everything else waits upon this."

Maria Montessori

Letter from the President of the School Board

ON BEHALF OF THE MONTESSORI CHILDREN'S SCHOOL BOARD, I AM HONORED TO EXTEND YOU ALL A WARM WELCOME TO THE 2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR! FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO I HAVE NOT YET MET, I AM PINKY SINGH, MOTHER OF SIARAH SINGH, WHO IS IN THE GUMBO LIMBO CLASS. I AM THRILLED TO INTRODUCE OUR NEW FAMILIES TO MCS THIS YEAR, AND INVITE ALL PARENTS, BOTH RETURNING AND NEW, TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ENGAGING MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND ACTIVITIES THAT MCS HOSTS.

YOU ARE ALL MEMBERS OF MCS, AND OUR GOAL IS TO SERVE YOU, WE WOULD LOVE FOR YOUR VOICE TO BE HEARD! MCS'S GUIDING PRINCIPLES ARE TO ENRICH OUR CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE. AS PARENT MEMBERS OF OUR SCHOOL WE AID IN THIS PROCESS BY 1) PROVIDING AN ACCESSIBLE PLATFORM FOR PARENT INVOLVEMENT 2) FUNDRAISING TO SPONSOR SCHOOL EVENTS, ASSEMBLIES AND FIELD TRIPS, AND 3) TO BE AMBASSADORS FOR THE SCHOOL IN THE WIDER COMMUNITY.

WHY MONTESSORI CHILDREN'S SCHOOL?

The high enrollment numbers speak for the success of this school, it's the love and dedication of the staff that reflects in the students. Seeing the students involved in the environment that you support provides a rewarding experience. Interacting with them will be proof that your interest is making a difference each and every day.

WHY WORK PAY?

Montessori Children's School does not operate solely on tuition. With the support of the parent volunteer hours, along with tuition, fundraisers, grants, the school administration and board can continue to offer not only the educational basics but also additional programs, such as pottery, yoga and chess, to list a few. The money raised allows your school to continue to provide the best education possible. MCS is the school of choice for all of us. Let's all choose to support it financially with our school fees and with volunteer hours, it can only succeed if we all work together.

And in Conclusion

Each of MCS's past and present Board members has made a significant commitment to service. Each of us has taken our responsibilities seriously and is working closely with Administration to ensure that MCS provides an excellent learning environment for our children. The Board will continue its diligent oversight of the operations of the school to support our staff in their efforts to provide an exceptional Montessori environment for our students and protect our financial stability. Any member of the corporation is welcome to communicate with the Board.

PLEASE ALSO MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE BACK-TO-SCHOOL PICNIC ON FRIDAY OCTOBER 7TH. THESE PARENT EVENTS ARE ALWAYS FILLED WITH FUN AND SURPRISES, AND ARE A GREAT WAY TO MEET UP WITH FRIENDS, BOTH OLD AND NEW, BUILDING UPON THE COMMUNITY THAT IS SO UNIQUE TO OUR MONTESSORI ENVIRONMENT.

JUST AS LAST YEAR, WE WILL MEET AT THREE MANDATORY CORPORATION MEETINGS, THE FIRST ONE IS ON SEPTEMBER 15TH AT 5:30 PM. WE WILL PROVIDE WINE, CHEESE AND CHILDCARE AT OUR EVENING MEETINGS. IT'S LIKE A NIGHT OUT ON US! COME JOIN US IN MAKING THIS THE MOST MEMORABLE AND ENRICHING YEAR YET FOR OUR CHILDREN.

Sincerely,

The MCS Board of Directors